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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Tank Exercise at Doeberitz Troop Training Grounds

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EVALUATION [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

Apr 11 1960

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

1 sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. The following vehicles were observed leaving the Rohrbeck Panzer Kaserne, Doeberitz (N 53/2 65), at about 9:30 a.m. on 7 February 1950:

One SP gun

Two trucks, each occupied by 36 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia

Twelve T34 tanks with rod antennas, leaving in groups of four at 5 to 10-minute intervals

Two SP guns

One track-laying motor vehicle with tracks and suspensions like those of the SP guns, built as wrecking vehicle without superstructure, occupied by 6 men.

They were followed at about 11:30 a.m. by four T34 tanks, 3 SP guns, 1 wrecking vehicle as described before and truck 7 3-20-42, carrying 35 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and 3 mortars of 80 to 100 mm caliber.

2. All vehicles moved to the training grounds via Rohrbeck, Doeberitz and Dallgow. The following observations were made from the ruin of a concrete shelter (Reference letter C on Annex):

a. Four tanks moved into position as shown on Annex. The empty truck was parked in the woods. Twenty soldiers sought cover between the tanks while 15 soldiers emplaced a mortar at the westernmost SP gun. The SP guns were camouflaged with green-brown-gray-colored canvas. The other tanks, SP guns and trucks were covered from sight in the woods about 1.5 km SW of Ruin C.

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b. In the course of the exercise the western SF gun changed its position as indicated by the dotted line on annex. A squad of 1 NCO and 10 EM advanced behind the SF gun while the mortar remained in its emplacement. There was no firing during the exercise, which was watched by about 20 officers standing at the monument. At about 2 p.m. eight of these officers walked to the 4 SF guns while the others went to the tanks near the dirt road. Upon the arrival of the officers, the crews left their vehicles, one officer and 2 EM getting out of each tank and four men from each SF gun. At about 3 p.m. the officers boarded a truck and left toward Gross Glienicke. All vehicles involved in the exercise **returned** to their quarters on the previous route about 45 minutes later. One SF gun was towed by a wrecking vehicle.

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The armored exercise by component units of the 1st Mecz Div was probably held for a final inspection or as a demonstration for an officer training course of the 1st Mecz Div \*.

1 Annex: Tank Exercise at the Doeberitz Troop Training Grounds.

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